

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 965

To provide for programs of scholarships for members of Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps units toward obtaining private pilot's licenses, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 1, 2019

Mr. JONES (for himself and Mr. COTTON) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To provide for programs of scholarships for members of Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps units toward obtaining private pilot's licenses, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Ceiling and Visibility
5 Unlimited Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROGRAMS OF SCHOLARSHIPS FOR MEMBERS OF**
2 **JUNIOR RESERVE OFFICERS' TRAINING**
3 **CORPS UNITS TOWARD OBTAINING PRIVATE**
4 **PILOT'S LICENSES.**

5 (a) PROGRAMS AUTHORIZED.—Each Secretary of a
6 military department may carry out a program to award
7 scholarships to qualified members of units of the Junior
8 Reserve Officers' Training Corps under the jurisdiction of
9 such Secretary to assist such members in obtaining a pri-
10 vate pilot's license through an institution of higher edu-
11 cation approved by such Secretary pursuant to subsection
12 (c).

13 (b) MEMBER QUALIFICATIONS.—

14 (1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out a program
15 under subsection (a), the Secretary of a military de-
16 partment shall prescribe the standards to be met by
17 members of units of the Junior Reserve Officers'
18 Training Corps under the jurisdiction of the Sec-
19 retary to be eligible for the award of a scholarship
20 under the program.

21 (2) UNIFORMITY ACROSS MILITARY DEPART-
22 MENTS.—To the extent practicable, the standards
23 prescribed under this subsection shall be uniform
24 across the military departments.

25 (c) APPROVED INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDU-
26 CATION.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out a program
2 under subsection (a), the Secretary of a military de-
3 partment shall maintain a list of institutions of high-
4 er education at which a scholarship awarded under
5 the program may be used toward obtaining a private
6 pilot's license.

7 (2) QUALIFICATIONS AND STANDARDS.—Any
8 institution of higher education included on a list
9 under this subsection, and any course of instruction
10 toward obtaining a private pilot's license offered by
11 such institution, shall meet such qualifications and
12 standards as the Secretary shall prescribe for pur-
13 poses of the program. Such qualifications and stand-
14 ards shall include a requirement that any institution
15 included on the list award academic credit at such
16 institution to any member awarded a scholarship
17 under the program who successfully completes the
18 ground school course of instruction of such institu-
19 tion in connection with obtaining a private pilot's li-
20 cense.

21 (d) SCHOLARSHIP.—

22 (1) AMOUNT.—The amount of the scholarship
23 awarded a member of a Junior Reserve Officers'
24 Training Corps under a program under subsection
25 (a) shall be such amount as the Secretary of the

1 military department concerned considers appropriate
2 to defray, whether in whole or in part, the charges
3 and fees of a course of instruction toward obtaining
4 a private pilot's license offered by the institution of
5 higher education to be attended by the member in
6 obtaining the license.

7 (2) USE.—A scholarship awarded a member
8 under a program may be used by the member only
9 to defray the charges and fees of an institution of
10 higher education for a course of instruction toward
11 obtaining a private pilot's license.

12 (3) MAINTENANCE OF MEMBERSHIP.—A schol-
13 arship awarded an individual under a program may
14 be used by the individual only while the individual
15 maintains membership in a unit of a Junior Reserve
16 Officers' Training Corps.

17 (e) ASSESSMENT OF RELATED PILOT PROGRAM.—

18 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days
19 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-
20 retary of Defense shall submit to Congress a report
21 setting forth the results of an assessment, conducted
22 by the study group described in paragraph (2) for
23 purposes of the report, of the pilot program con-
24 ducted by the Air Force in 2018 and 2019 known

1 as the “JROTC Flight Academy, Chief of Staff Pri-
2 vate Pilot Scholarship Program”.

3 (2) STUDY GROUP.—The study group described
4 in this paragraph shall include the following:

5 (A) A representative of the Department of
6 Defense, selected by the Secretary of Defense.

7 (B) A representative of each military de-
8 partment, selected by the Secretary of such
9 military department.

10 (C) A representative of the Department of
11 Transportation, selected by the Secretary of
12 Transportation.

13 (D) A representative of the Department of
14 Education, selected by the Secretary of Edu-
15 cation.

16 (E) Representatives of such private organi-
17 zations and entities as the Secretary of Defense
18 considers appropriate.

19 (3) ELEMENTS.—The assessment required by
20 paragraph (1) shall identify best practices in assist-
21 ing members of the Junior Reserve Officers’ Train-
22 ing Corps in obtaining a private pilot’s license
23 through institutions of higher education, including

- 1 the most appropriate funding mechanisms for such
- 2 practices.

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